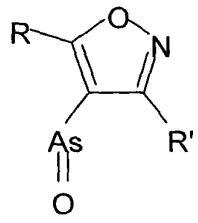
practice of the invention and may prove equal or superior to dithiol inhibitors in applications where a slight increase in cell toxicity is not a critical factor.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17 and 18 have been cancelled in the accompanying transmittal documents for the present application, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims, without prejudice or disclaimer, as indicated below (A redlined version of each of the amended claims accompany the present Amendment):

9. (Amended) A compound having the following formula:



wherein at least one of R and R' is a charged ligand.

10. (Amended) The compound according to claim 9, wherein the charged ligand contains at least one sulfonate group.

11. (Amended) The compound according to claim 9, wherein one of R or R' is an uncharged H or C_1-C_6-alkyl ligand.

12. (Amended) A method for inhibiting PDI compounds exposing cells expressing PDI to a compound according to claim 9 in an amount sufficient to inhibit PDI

activity.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein PDI activity is 35 measured by assaying L-selectin shedding from leucocytes or lymphocytes.

14. (Amended) A method for treating a mammal for a viral infection propagated by PDI-mediated virion entry into host cells comprising administering to the mammal the compound of claim 9 in an amount sufficient to inhibit viral propagation.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the viral infection is an HIV infection.

19. (Amended) A method for determining optimum blood concentrations of a PDI inhibitor for treatment of a mammal for a viral infection comprising: admixing a blood sample with the compound of claim 9 and assaying for leucocyte L-selectin shedding.

Please add the following new claims:

20. (New) The compound of claim 9, wherein said compound is a membrane impermeable inhibitor of protein disulfide isomerase (PDI).

21. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the viral infection is an HIV infection.